

In the Specification:

Please replace the Title on page 1 with the following amended title:

Method for Producing Light-Coloured Colored Polyalkylene Glycol Diethyl Ether Ethers of Fatty Acid ~~Alkanolamine~~ Alkanolamides

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 18 with the following amended paragraph:

Basically, the choice of the fatty acid alkanolamides used, which are condensation products of technical fatty acids with mono- or dialkanolamines, is not critical. The educts used are typically fatty acid alkanolamides which correspond to formula (I):



where R¹CO is a linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated acyl group containing 6 to 22 carbon atoms and 0 or 1 to 3 double bonds, R² is a hydroxyalkyl group containing 2 to 4 carbon atoms and R³ is hydrogen or, independently, has the same meaning as R². Typical examples are the condensation products of caproic acid, caprylic acid, capric acid, lauric acid, myristic acid, palmitic acid, stearic acid, isostearic acid, oleic acid, linoleic acid, linolenic acid, petroselinic acid, elaeostearic acid, 12-hydroxystearic acid, ricinoleic acid, gadoleic acid, arachidonic acid, behenic acid, erucic acid, and technical mixtures of two or more thereof, more particularly, coconut oil fatty acid, palm kernel oil fatty acid, palm oil fatty acid and tallow fatty acid, with monoethanolamine, diethanolamine, monopropanolamine and dipropanolamine, and mixtures of two or more thereof. Condensation products of coconut oil fatty acids or of tallow fatty acids with monoethanolamine are preferably used.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 3, with the following amended paragraph:

The alkoxylation of the fatty acid alkanolamides may be carried out in a known manner. Stirred autoclaves are generally used, being freed from adhering traces of water and atmospheric oxygen by alternate heating, evacuation and purging with nitrogen. The amides are introduced into the autoclave together with the catalyst and the reducing agent and heated to a temperature of preferably ~~80 to 150°C and more preferably 110 to 140°C, more preferably 120 to 140°C.~~ The alkylene oxide is introduced in portions under a pressure of 1 to 10 and preferably 3 to 6 bar. It is advisable to follow the addition with an after-reaction time lasting one to two hours during which the temperature level ~~can~~ may be gradually reduced. After the alkoxylation, the reaction products typically have a Gardner color value of 3 to 4.